

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Legislative Youth Conference | 2 |
| Marathon Water Heaters | 2 |
| Member Privacy | 3 |
| Why Does My Electric Bill Go Up? | 3 |
| Check Carbon Monoxide Alarm | 3 |

Board of Directors

James McCormick
Jennifer Thurber
Janice Hoad
Robert Nichols
Gordon Foster
Joseph Hauryski
Gary Brockway
William Moss III
Randy Stankey

Office Locations

Bath Office

9 Wilson Avenue
Bath, NY 14810
607-776-4161
1-800-843-3414

Office Hours (M-F)
7:30 to 4:00 PM

Cherry Creek Office
5966 South Road
Cherry Creek, NY 14723
1-716-287-3602
1-800-883-8236

Office Hours (M-F)
7:00 to 3:30 PM

Office Closings

February 20, 2017
April 14, 2017

General Manager's Message

As you may recall, at the Annual Meeting of the membership which occurred in October 2016, we announced that the Cooperative was undergoing what is called a Cost of Service Study to determine what it actually costs to serve each residential member, small commercial member, large commercial member, etc.

The study was completed in December; and since then, Management and the Board of Directors have been hard at work considering the outcome of the study, with the goal being to ensure that the Cooperative's expenses are covered fairly while minimizing the impact on our members.

It is important for you to remember that Steuben Rural Electric Cooperative is a member-owned, not-for-profit, rural electric cooperative that does not exist to make a profit from selling electricity; but instead, exists to provide electricity at the lowest possible rate. And unlike a typical investor-owned electric utility, your Cooperative does not have to generate large profits for investors. We are owned by the members we serve, and our goal in designing rates is always to balance our duty of running a sound, financially stable, and reliable electric business, while making sure our members are not charged more than what is necessary.

While virtually all aspects of today's cost of living and costs associated with doing business continue to rise, we have prided ourselves on avoiding routine rate adjustments. In fact, Steuben Rural Electric Cooperative and our member-owners have enjoyed five (5) years of rate stability, even when the Cooperative's costs have continued to increase. The last rate increase levied on members was 8.5% in Janu-

ary 2012. And it is important to note that in January 2014, the Cooperative actually decreased our customer charge by approximately \$3.00 for every member.

We only consider an adjustment when we really have to. We believe that reliable electric service at a reasonable price is something that you can count on and that we deliver on a daily basis. However, in order to maintain the reliability, quality, integrity and affordability of the electric services we provide our member-owners, it is sometimes necessary for us to implement a rate increase to cover our costs.

Although the outcome of the Cost of Service Study indicated that a larger rate increase was needed to match the overall cost of the Cooperative; at this point in time, Management and the Board of Directors have decided to increase rates by 2%, which is more in line with the national increase in the cost of living. You will see the effects of this increase beginning with your April 2017 bill, which will be due in May 2017. The typical residential member who uses 1,000 kWh per month, would see an increase of approximately \$2.50 per month on their bill.

Our strategy going forward is to continue to keep our costs as low as possible, so as to position ourselves to hopefully avoid a larger increase on member rates in the future. Although we must raise our price to cover the costs of doing business, we are committed to ensuring this occurrence has the smallest possible impact on you.

As a reminder, also beginning with your April 2017 bill, you will see the effects of New York

State's Clean Energy Standard. If you remember from the last Newsletter you received from the Cooperative, I described that the Clean Energy Standard mandates that New York receive half (50%) of its power from renewable energy sources by 2030. In addition, this order will provide billions of dollars in subsidies to the struggling nuclear energy industry. The costs associated with this standard will be passed directly on to all utility ratepayers, including customers of the New York State Electric & Gas (NYSEG) and members of the New York Power Authority, like ourselves. This charge will be labeled 'CES ZECs.' At this point in time, our very rough estimate as to the impact of ZECs on an average residential member's bill is an increase of approximately \$3.00 per month.

In conclusion, we are committed to continuing to improve the quality of rural life by providing our members with low cost, reliable electricity and related services in a safe manner. If you have any questions or concerns regarding the implementation of this rate increase, we encourage you to call our offices at (607)776-4161.

We will do our best to answer your questions and we look forward to working with you on ways that you may be able to reduce your monthly bill. One strategy may be to implement energy efficiency programs into your home or to calculate and/or budget your energy use.

We're here to help and to deliver the reliable power you've come to know and expect.

Sincerely,

Molly Bailey, General Manager
Jim McCormick, Board President



Legislative Conference
Washington D.C.
April 23 - 26, 2017



318202

**105 Gallon
(MR105245)
Marathon
Water Heaters**

**Regular Price
\$905.00**

**Sale Price
\$678.75**

****while supplies last****



Legislative Youth Conference

Steuben Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc. announces an exciting opportunity for 11th grade students. Annually, SREC sponsors a “Legislative Youth Delegate”. If selected, the student will travel to Washington D.C. to meet with our nation’s political leaders and learn about our nation’s legislative process. This year the tour will take place from Sunday, April 23, 2017 to Wednesday, April 26, 2017. The student and other Steuben Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc. delegates will travel to Washington, DC on Saturday, April 22, 2017 and re-

turn to Bath on Wednesday, April 26, 2017. The conference is a national lobbying effort by our nation’s rural electric Cooperatives to inform our Members of Congress and/or their staffs about rural electric issues and other important issues affecting rural areas like those in Steuben, Schuyler, Cattaraugus and Chautauqua counties. This is an excellent learning opportunity for students. He or she will gain first-hand experience in how our national government works. Time will also be reserved for visits to historical sites in Washington. This op-

portunity is an “all-expense-paid” trip except for general spending money that the student may elect to spend on souvenirs and incidentals. All student applicants must be in the 11th grade and must live in a home served by Steuben Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc. To receive application materials or more information, contact Kristen Cleveland at (607) 776-4161 ext. 118. The completed application packet must be received by the Cooperative no later than 4:00pm on Wednesday, March 15th, 2017.



How old is your water heater? Did you know the average water heater lasts only 10 years? Don’t wait until you run out of hot water. Replace it now with a super-efficient Marathon water heater. Only Marathon has a true lifetime warranty.

Replace your current water heater with a Marathon water heater and receive a rebate of \$1 per rated gallon capacity (a load control switch must be installed).

Call the Cooperative today at 607-776-4161 or 1-800-843-3414 to find out more about Marathon Water Heaters. Available in full size 30, 50, 85 and 105 gallon models.



“In accordance with the provisions of the New York Codes, Rules and Regulations, the Steuben Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc. is required to permit a residential customer to designate, in writing, a third party to receive a copy of every notice of discontinuance of service to the customer, provided that such third party indicated in writing a willingness to receive such notices. If you wish to designate a third party to receive these notices, please contact the main office at (607) 776-4161 for a copy of the applicable paperwork.”

Member Privacy

The data privacy of our members is important to us, and as a SREC member, you may be asked to provide additional information and identification when you make inquiries on your account, such as the last four digits of your social security number.

A member may complete a consent form to allow us to give account information to anyone other than the member. This allows an authorized contact to make inquiries on the account.

A completed and signed consent form must be on file in order for us to give account information to anyone other than the member. If the membership is a joint membership, the consent form must be signed by both members. A signed form must be returned to SREC.

An authorized contact may make inquiries on the account they are authorized on only. They may not make any service status changes to an account (disconnect, reconnect or the transfer of service).

The addition of an authorized contact does not grant any ownership to the unretired capital credits on the member's account. They also are not financially responsible for the account,

Consent form agreements will remain in effect until Steuben Rural Electric is notified by the member that it is cancelled. While these practices may seem intrusive, please understand that these procedures are in place to protect your member data.



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Why Does My Electric Bill Go Up In the Winter?

Every year, SREC receives calls from members with concerns about their bills. We get most of these calls during the winter months, and they come from folks who feel their electric bills are incorrect because they are higher than usual.

During the winter, heaters are running, we are inside more, the TV is on, the lights are on, the kids are inside and so on. In other words, we all use more electricity during the winter.

First, we need to know that the

colder it is outside, the more energy it takes to keep our homes warm. When it's 70 degrees out, your heating system doesn't have to work to keep it 70 degrees indoors. But when it drops to 10 degrees out, it has to work very hard to keep it 70 degrees indoors.

Take a look around your home to see what uses electricity to keep your home warm. If you have electric heat, whether baseboard heaters, electric furnace or a heat pump, you pretty much know where it's getting used. If you have

a gas furnace though, you might not think your electric use would increase. Remember though, the more your furnace runs, the more the blower runs, and it's run by electricity.

Even though you use gas, you may have some portable electric heaters you use to keep certain rooms warm. Electric blankets and electric heat tape on water lines will also increase your electric use.

If you are concerned about your bill, please give us a call and we will go over your usage with you.

"It is very important to make your home as energy efficient as financially possible".
Go to www.steubenrec.com and click on the Energy Efficiency icon for more information.

Check Carbon Monoxide Alarm During Heating Season

Heating season is a good time to make sure the carbon monoxide detectors in your house are working properly. Or, if you don't have any, it's time to install them.

Carbon monoxide is a potential by product of burning fossil fuels like gas and oil. It's colorless and odorless, but it's potently toxic, and can cause everything from dizziness to death.

Stay safe this winter by taking a few precautions:

- ◇ Install a carbon monoxide alarm outside of every bedroom.
- ◇ Replace batteries in the alarm at least twice a year.
- ◇ While you're at it, change the batteries in the smoke alarms, too.

- ◇ If you notice any warning signs that carbon monoxide is at harmful levels in your home - the air is stuffy and stale; condensation appears on the windows; burner flames turn yellow; pilot lights flutter or extinguish - turn the appliance off and open the windows. Call a natural gas contractor to inspect the equipment.



The Trading Post



To advertise in the next issue of The Energizer, please mail or email your ad by April 17, 2017 to:

Steuben REC, Inc.
9 Wilson Avenue
Bath, NY 14810
Attn: Kristen Cleveland
kcleveland@steubenrec.com



Happy Hunting!



In the body of this newsletter are five (5) account numbers. If you find your account number in this newsletter call the office within fifteen (15) days and your account will be credited \$10.00.

For Sale

7' quick attach, 5 position snow plow blade for a tractor or skid steer - \$1000.00 or best offer. Call 607-382-8116 for any questions.

1995 Ford Truck, 4x4, 6 cylinder, standard 5 speed; 4 tires on Buick wheels, 205-70 15; 2 Ryobie chain saws, brand new, 20 inch bar; Ben Frankly wood stove. Call 607-527-8891 or 607-664-7688 for prices.

1994 GMC Yukon, inspected 7/16, good frame, 4 wheel drive, works good, new gas tank and sending unit. New brakes, new radiator and more; Brush guard for 1/2 ton GM 07-13. Call 607-225-4516 for prices.

Ariens 2 stage 24" electric or manual start snow blower - model 920014. Used 4 times. Looks, starts and runs like new. Still under 5 yr. warranty. Purchased for \$799.00 - will sell for \$500.00 firm. Call 607-359-4777.

Winco farm generator, PTO driven, 220 volts, 15,000 watts. Includes Wadsworth transfer switch. In excellent condition - has been stored in its own shed and used very little - \$1000.00. Call 716-257-3637 and leave message if unavailable.

Tree tops, Red Oak tops left from recent timber operation. Many logs and some marked trees never harvested. Excellent firewood. Located between Bath and Savona. Call 585-880-9267.

1995 Ford Explorer, 4DR, 4

WD, automatic, 184,000 well maintained miles, oil & filter changed every 2,000 miles, new starter, ball joints, rear spring shackle, all systems function - \$200.00; 1997 Ford Explorer, 4DR, 4WD, automatic, all systems functioned when parked, needs a gas tank - \$150.00. Call 607-566-8310.

Timber Harvester 30HT portable band sawmill fully hydraulic drive, log lift and log turner. Well maintained and stored inside - \$5000.00 or best offer; rough sawn air dried red oak, soft maple, white oak, poplar and several types of kiln dried lumber surfaced two sides - call for pricing; EBC lumber dryer a \$2500.00 unit selling for \$1500.00. Call 607-698-4876.

Hot Point stove, may need orifice changed or cleaned for oven, otherwise works fine. Asking \$175.00 or best offer. Call 607-776-3205 anytime, if no answer leave message.

Trapping Supplies. Grandview Fur Center, Bill Bowdoin, Bradford, NY. Call 607-583-4600.

Animal lures & baits, deer lures & cover scents, hunting & trapping supplies. Supply catalog-\$1.00. Bill Russ Trading Post Store, 25 William St, Addison NY 14801.

Miscellaneous

The Cala Lily Yarn Shop is open! Beautiful yarns, notions, and gift items. 10%

off all regularly priced yarn to members with Co-op Connections Card. Country Shop open March-December, Wednesday & Saturday, 10-3 and Thursday, 4:30-8:30. Closed Jan & Feb. Call 716-397-9478.

Welder hats & doo rags. Hand made in many patterns including sports. Embroidery also available on plain colored hats. Many designs, including IBEW and fist with lighting bolts. Have your local # and name embroidered on your hat or doo rag. Call or text for pricing, free shipping is available. SEW MANY THINGS By Judy. Call 912-655-8336. Also search for me on Facebook.

ANN's Housekeeping & Cleaning Service, "Old Fashion Cleaning, We Get In All The Corners". References and reliable! Homes, offices, cottages, parties & seasonal cleaning. Call 607-329-4906. Gift certificates available.

Custom Welding - aluminum, stainless and brazing. Light fabrication & repair. Call for appointment at 607-776-8018.

Wanted

Raw fur and deer hides. Grandview Fur Center, Bill Bowdoin, Bradford, NY. Call 607-583-4600.

